

THE ENGLISH  
VINEYARD  
VINDICATED

BY  
JOHN ROSE

Gard'ner to His MAJESTY,  
at his Royal GARDEN  
in St. James's.

Formerly Gard'ner to her Grace  
the Dutchesse of Somerset.

With an Address,

Where the best Plants may be had at  
easie Rates.

---

LONDON,

Printed by J. Grismond for John Crook,  
at the Ship in St. Pauls Church-yard,  
1666.

THE RECORD

# VINEYARD

VINEYARD

JOHN ROSE

GRANTING HIS WIFE

at his house in  
No. 71826

Formerly Granting to his wife  
the benefit of her

will as directed

where the last will was made in  
the year

LONDON

Printed by J. B. [illegible] for the  
at the [illegible] [illegible]



TO THE  
K I N G S

*Most Sacred*  
*M A J E S T Y.*

*May it please Your Majesty,*

**B**EING by  
Your MA-  
JESTIES  
Grace and  
Favour ad-  
vanc'd to the Supream-  
A 3 est

## *The Epistle*

est Glory of our Profession, which is to be qualified Your *Majesties* Gard'ner; I thought it most agreeable to my Duty, to render Your *Majesty* this account of my *Labour*, and do supplicate as well Your gracious *Acceptance* of what I Offer, as Your *Pardon* for my Presumption; if at least the shortness of the Discourse, or the meanness of the *Author* may



## Dedicatorie.

may bring it any prejudice; when the great *Augustus* was pleased that *Caius Valgius's* book of a few *Herbs*, and *Mæcenas*, that a Pamphlet concerning the nature of *Onions* onely should be inscribed to them: Sir,<sup>l</sup> dedicate the *Prince of Plants* to the *Prince of Planters*, Your *Majesty*: This *Royal Title*, as Your *Majesties* great affection and encouragement to all that

## *The Epistle*

is truely Magnificent and Emolumental in the *Culture of Trees and Fruit*, has worthily acquird; so has it given instance to thousands of *Your Majesties* Subjects, whose glory it is to transcribe after your great *Example* for the good of the *Ages* to come.

I know *Your Majesty* can have no great opinion of our *English Wines*, as hitherto they have

*Dedicatorie.*

have been order'd; but  
as I perswade my self it is  
not altogether from the  
defect of the *Climate*, at  
least not in all *places* alike;  
nor, I am sure, of the In-  
dustry of Your *Majesties*  
Subjects; but in some-  
what else, which I endea-  
vour to encounter in  
these few *Papers*; so if by  
Your *Majesties* gracious  
*Acceptance* of the *Essay*,  
Gentlemen shall be en-  
courag'd to Plant those  
*sorts*

*The Epistle &c.*

*sorts of Vines* which I here  
recommēd, and to *Cul-*  
*tivate* them by my *directi-*  
*on*; that precious *Liquor*  
may haply once againe  
recover its just estimation,  
be the product of *Your*  
*Majesties Dominions*, and  
answer the ambition of

*May it please Your Majesty,*

*Your Majesties*

*most obedient Subject*

*and Servant,*

*JOHN ROSE.*

THE ENGLISH  
VINEYARD  
VINDICATED.

THE PREFACE  
OR

Occasion of this Discourse.

**B**Eing one day refresh-  
ing my self in the  
Garden at Essex-house,  
and amongst other things  
falling into discourse with  
Mr. Rose, (then Gard'ner  
to her Grace the Dutchess  
of

## The Preface.

of Somerset) about Vines,  
and particularly the Cause  
of the neglect of Vineyards  
of late in England; he  
reason'd so pertinently upon  
that Subject (as indeed he  
does upon all things, which  
concern his hortulan Pro-  
fession) that conceiving how  
greatly it might oblige many  
worthy and ingenious Per-  
sons, lovers of Plantations,  
and of the noblest parts of  
it; I was easily perswaded  
to gratifie his modest and  
charitable

## The Preface

charitable inclinations, to have them communicated to the world. The Matter therefore of the ensuing Discourse being totally his, receives from me onely its forme, and the putting of his Conceptions together; which I have dress'd up in as rural a garbe as I thought might best become, and recommend them for Practice. I have turn'd over many both late, and ancient Books

## The Preface.

Books (*far exceeding this in bulk*) pretending to direct us in our choice of the Fruit, and the Planting of Vineyards : But I do ingenuously profess, that none of them have appear'd to me more rational, and worthy our imitation, than these short Observations of Mr. *Roses*, and which I so much the more value, as I consider them the native production of his own Experience, without obtruding any thing



## The Preface.

thing upon the reputation of others, which is now become the most pernicious Imposture that flatters us into so many mistakes and errours; whilst men follow such Directions as they meet withall in Print, or from some Monsieurs new come over, who thinke we are as much oblig'd to follow their mode of Gard'ning, as we do that of their Garments, 'till we become in both ridiculous. I might here add something of

## The Preface.

*of ostentation, by deducing the Pedegree of Vineyards from the great Oriental Patriarch of them to this day ; But it will be of more encouragement to us, when we shall consider how frequently they were heretofore planted in this Country of ours, as they still continue to be in Places of the very same Latitude abroad ; so as the strange decay of them amongst us for these latter Ages, must  
needs*

## The Preface.

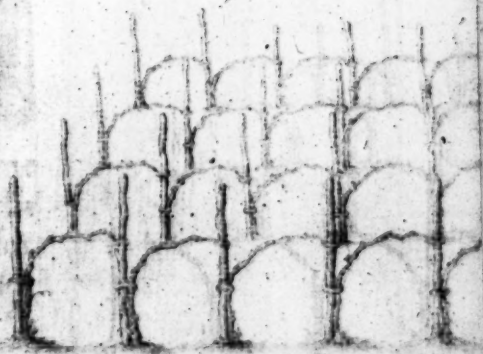
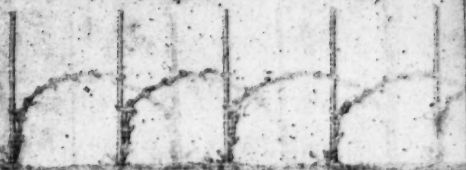
needs proceed from no other  
cause then that of our own  
neglect, and the common  
vicissitude of things. We  
behold it in that of Timber  
to our grief, and the several  
(almost lost) Species of some:  
Why have we not as goodly  
Masts for our Ships as  
our neighbour Countries?  
Why is the Elme, the Wal-  
nut, and the Chestnut so  
decay'd and rare amongst  
us, more than formerly they  
were? But of this I have

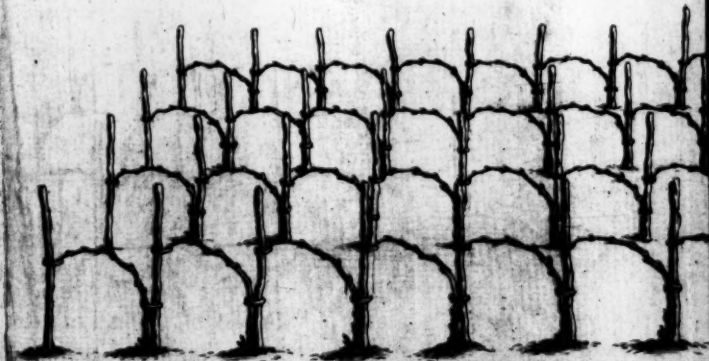
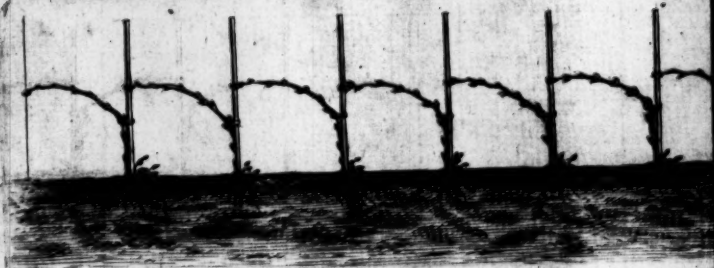
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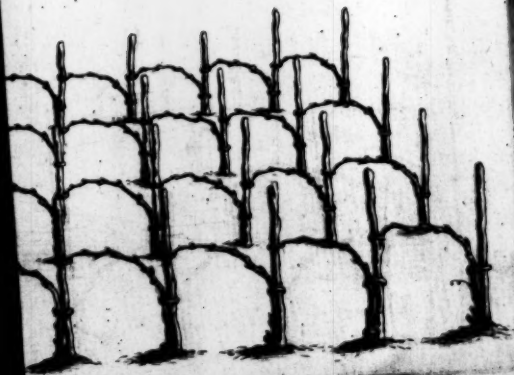
## The Preface.

*\*Sylva. else-where given an \* account more at large. The Vineyard is now before you.*

**Philocepos.**








THE ENGLISH  
**VINEYARD**  
*VINDICATED.*

CHAP. I.

*Of the several sorts of Vines, and  
what Grapes do best accommo-  
date with our Climate in  
England.*

PON long, and dili-  
gent observation  
of the Species; I  
do chiefly recom-  
mend these following, to be  
the most proper and natural  
for the Curious in our Coun-  
try to exercise their Industries

B 2

upon



## 2 *The English Vineyard*

upon, as from whence they may promise themselves a recompence worthy of their expectations.

1. The small *Black grape*, by some call'd the *Cluster-grape*, a prece and early ripe fruit.

2. The white *Muscadine* early ripe also, and a well known *grape*.

3. The *Parsly-grape*, so denominated from the shape and indentures of the leaf; it bears somewhat a smaller *raisin* or *berrie*, but it is of a briske and delicious taste, mature betimes.

4. The *Muscadella* a white *grape*,

*Vindicated.* 3

grape, not so big as the *Muscadine* though as soon ripe.

5. The *Frontiniaq*, both white and red.

6. A new white Grape, ripe before the *Muscadins*, which I found in His Majesties Garden in *St. James's*, with a red wood and a dark green leafe: it ripens as soon in standard as against some Walls, and is a closer bunch than the *Muscadine*. These are the kinds which I prefer before any other for the storing of a *Vineyard*, although there are several other sorts, which I pass by, as not so applicable to our designe,

B 3      though

4 *The English Vineyard*  
though very worthy of the  
Curious, and those who affect  
variety, because they will re-  
quire the artificial reflection  
and assistance of walls to  
bring them to maturity.

C H A P.

# *Vindicated.*

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## CHAP. II.

*Of the Soile, and Situation of  
a Vineyard in England.*

**L** Et election be made of  
a light *sandy* ground,  
if it be a little strong  
upon the surface it is not to  
be rejected: and for its situa-  
tion, I would choose that *side*  
or declivity of an *hill* lying to  
the *South*, or *South-west*, which  
if favor'd with other *hills*  
somewhat higher, or *woods*  
on the *North* and *East*, would  
be so much the better for the  
breaking the severitie of those  
pinching quarters: This light  
B 4                      soile

## 6 *The English Vineyard*

Soile having a bottom of  
*Chalk* or *gravell*, under a surface  
of two foot in depth, and free  
from *Springs*, cannot be too  
hot, or dry; provided it be  
not addicted to *health*; for  
commonly nothing grows  
kindly where *that* is apt to  
o'respread; but if given to  
*brambles*, it is a promising  
signe; and infinitely to be pre-  
ferr'd before the other; for  
most confident I am, (nor do  
I speak it upon conjecture  
only) that there is no *Plant*  
whatsoever so connatural to  
the *Vine* for soile and situati-  
on as this repent, and humble  
shrub;

shrub: Those who shall please to take notice of the places in which *brambles* most flourish; which are for the most part in the driest banks, hilly, stony and hot places; will easily infer how much they resemble the *Vine* in this particular: True it is, they will also come up in wetish and moist places also; but it is in the *other* where they grow large and strong, bear goodly berries and in most plenty; Not that I would hereby advise any to plant their *Vines* amongst the *brambles*; but those places well grubb'd

## 8 *The English Vineyard*

grubb'd and trenched, are not to be rejected, because they commonly thrive in such grounds as are apt for *Vines*, and where I would make choice of a spot to plant a *Vineyard* in.

That I have insisted on this remark, and of having a *Chalky* or *Gravelly* bottom, is from much experience, having never found, but that in such hard *Stony* or *Chalky* ground (provided it were not loamy) *Vines* do exceedingly flourish; especially if the land have layne a good while in repose, and not of many years exhausted

hausted by the *plow*, where the green swarth covers those gentle risings amongst the *downes*, not too much expos'd to the rudeness of the weather. Nor are *Gentlemen* to be therefore deterr'd, because this late age has neglected the Planting of *Vineyards*, that therefore it is to no purpose now to begin; since the discouragement has only proceeded from their misinformation on this material article of the *choyce* of *soile* and *situation*, whilst giving ear to our forraign *Gardners* coming here into *England*, they tooke  
up



## 10 *The English Vineyard*

up those rules which they  
law to be most practis'd in  
*Countries* of so little affinity  
with *ours*, and without ha-  
ving that due consideration of  
the *Climat*, which is so necessa-  
ry and behoveful to Plantati-  
ons of this nature: Hence  
they for the most part, made  
continual choice of our best  
and richest land, without re-  
gard of other circumstances;  
not considering that the  
deepness and fatness of the  
Earth, contributes more to  
the luxury of the *branches*,  
amplitude of *leaves* and pre-  
cipitation of the *roots* than  
to

*Vindicated.* 11

to the just and natural stature of the *stem*, plenty, and excellency of the fruit, for which alone these *Plantations* are desirable. In sandy or loamy land *Vines* indeed grow more abundantly, than where the sand, gravel, or chalk are ingredients, whose surface of mould is not so profound, a foot and half being sufficient; but this rock of *chalk* and *gravel*, does in the interim hinder the root from going too deep, forcing it to spread the more towards the top, by which meanes the tender and *fibrous* rootes receive the natural;

## 12 *The English Vineyard*

natural, sweet and benigne  
showers, dews, and influen-  
ces, which impart both life  
and pregnancy to these noble  
*Plantations* : By this they re-  
ceive the cherishing warmth  
of the *Sun*, impregnated with  
a certaine *volatile salt*, which  
produced near the surface of  
the Earth only, is drunk in by  
the delicat pores and aper-  
tures of the latent rootes,  
whilest the deeper buried, de-  
priv'd of these prolifical ad-  
vantages, grow only fertil in  
watery and insipid leaves or  
branches without fruit; the  
mould or *matrix* in which  
they

## Vindicated.

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they lie, being altogether sluggish and unactive for want of heat and the *prolific* embraces of the *Sun*. Hence it is we find so many *Vines*, though plentiful of *branches*, so thin of *joynts*, and those even of the same kind, planted in better ground, as thick of knots as a mans finger is of *joynts*, from whence those shootes are produc'd which our *English Vignerons* should preserve at *pruning* time to set his fruit, and expect his *Vintage* from.

But to return to the *situation* againe. Though *Land* should be so qualified as we have

#### 14 *The English Vineyard*

have describ'd it for the *soile*; yet if it have not also that *declivity* and *aspect* we mentioned, it cannot be so fit for our purpose: for first, *hills* are not so subject to the morning foggs and infectious mists as lower grounds are; besides, *flat* lands do not so soone enjoy the benefit of the rising *Sun*, nor does it stay so long upon them in the evening by some hours in the day; for since this *solar* and generous *Plant* does above all things affect to be dry, especially, after the fruit begins to be formed, and approach to its maturity;

over

there

there is nothing more noxious to it, then at that season, to be infested with the cold and heavy damps of these fogs; and it is in that, as much as in any other thing, wherein other more Southern *tracts* have the advantage of us, that these enemies are dispersed and scatter'd sooner than with us; and which therefore we must strive to encounter by the advantages we have hitherto neglected; but which we may surmount by making choice of a more lofty situation;

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## CHAP. III.

*How to prepare the ground for the Plantation.*

**I** Have already wish'd for a *turfy* surface, and which has not been broken up, or sowed of a long time, and have alledged my reasons for it. But now in *July*, when the *Earth* is very dry and combustible, plow up the *swarth*, and when it is very crusty, dispose the *turfes* in small heapes, burn, and spread the *ashes* over the land, to be trenched in *December* or the *January* following. I advise you to lay  
your

your dried materials but in little heaps, from an observation which I have made in *Wiltshire*, and particularly the *Downes* of *Salisbury-plaine*, that where they congeat too much together, the excessive fire and heat (which they require to reduce them to ashes) overburnes the earth, to the great prejudice of those salts and spirits which a more moderate fire would preserve from evaporation and flying away; an instance of this we have in the Charring of Wood for Coale, the small dust whereof is a powerful ingredient to the



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improving of the roots of  
*Trees*, moderately made use  
of.

The ground thus prepar'd;  
when you begin to trench,  
contrive your *ranges* so, as they  
may run thwart your *hill*, that  
is, let the *ridges* pass from *East*  
to *West*; my reason is, because  
the *Vines* standing thus in  
*ranks*; the rising and setting  
of the *Sun* will by this meanes  
pass through the intervals,  
which it would not do in the  
common posture of *North* and  
*South*; for the *Sun* being low at  
its first and last appearance a-  
bove the *Horison* (and at which  
time,

time by reason of our fogs and mists, we chiefly stand in need of his assistance) those rows which pass from North and South will shade one the other, and so hinder this material effect. If it be objected that *Vines* being so planted, lose that at Noon, which they gaine in the Morning and Evening; I reply, that the Sun at the season of ripening, is high enough for rowes of *Vines* of three foot distance, to shine with, and dart its beams even over the very Plants without the least interception: whereas upon its rising

20 *The English Vineyard*  
or setting, it would be almost  
totally *Ecclipsed* by the Colla-  
teral posture of the opposite  
ranges.

CHAP.

## CHAP. IV.

*How to Plant the Sets.*

**T**He Ground in this order, prepare a measure of three-foot, and by a line strain'd, dig the Earth a foot deep or the single spit, cleansing the Trench, and shouling up the crumbs that the bottom be cleane, and the edges sharp, which you must guide by your measure, that so all the trenches may be of an equal size. This done, fit your Plants, Layers, or Rootes so prun'd both roots and branches, that you leave not a-

## 22 *The English Vineyard*

above two or three eyes of the young wood upon them. Then Plant them in the bottome of your Trenches, so as the rootes may lie Cross them, and somewhat sloaping on a strait line as near as may be guess'd. In this posture, cover them three or four inches with the mould; and order it so, as the upper part of your plant be two or three inches lower than the ground, that when the ridges come to be levell'd, the top of your sets may be even with the area. Thus proceed to plant them at the distance of two foot one from the  
the

the other, that so the *ranges* may have a yard interval between. This done, take long dung or litter, and strow it in the *Trenches*, of a reasonable thickness to cover the Earth, and preserve the roots from those dry and peircing winds which would otherwise infinitely prejudice them; this will likewise maintain them cold and fresh in *Summer*, till they have *struck* and taken hold of their Stations: After this they will need no more for the present, but that you diligently *haw*, and cleanse them from *weeds*, before they come

## 24 *The English Vineyard*

come to *seede*; and in this labour of *hawing*, work a little of the sides of your *ridges* with your instrument towards the *roots* of your newly planted *Vines*, to comfort and establish them. *This Diagram refers to the order and distance of planting the sets.*

CHAP.

## CHAP. V.

*How to dress, Prune, and Govern the Plantation.*

**T**He first pruning of the new set *Vineyard* shall not begin before the *January* after, and then cut off all the *shootes* as near as you can possibly, sparing only the strongest and most vigorous to each roote, which you should leave with two eyes of young wood; and so let them rest till *May* the second year after planting, and then be sure to clear the roots of all collateral *suckers* which do  
but



## 26 *The English Vineyard*

but rob, and exhaust your  
*jets*; and leave none but what  
break out of those two or  
three eyes of the young wood  
above mention'd, continuing  
your care to suppress the  
*weeds*; and in your *hawing* to  
cherish the roots of your  
plants with some of your *ridg-*  
*earth* as you were taught in  
the former Chapter. And  
thus you shall also govern  
your *Vineyard* the third year,  
cutting off all the *shoots* very  
close in the same *Moneth*, and  
sparing only the stoutest  
which is next the ground; yet  
so, as you leave him not above  
three

three or four eyes. This done dig all your *Vineyard* and lay it very level; but with great care that in the work you do not cut or wound any of the maine roots with your *spade*; as for the younger roots, it is not so material, for they will grow but the thicker. It is in this *third* year that you may peradventure enjoy some fruit of your labour, which if answerable to your hopes, will admonish you to provide for *props*, which must be made of *Hazel, Ash, or Oake*, about four foot in length, of the thickness of a *broom-stick*, which  
being

28 *The English Vineyard*  
being conveniently apply'd to  
the North side of your plant,  
you shall in May (robbing off  
all the *theives* which spring  
from the Roots of the plant,  
and leaving only such as  
come from the *stem* and like  
to bear fruit) bind up the  
shoots of those three *Weyes*  
which you were order'd to  
leave, as the most probable to  
be *bearers* that year, as in *June*  
you will discover. When the  
fruit is of the size of *birding*  
*shot*, break off the branches  
with your hand at the second  
*joint* above the fruit, and eye  
the rest to the *prop*. I say, you  
must

## Vindicated. 19

must breake, not cut your *Vines*, because wounds made now with a *knife* or sharper instrument, are not so apt to heale; and therefore the season for this work is in the very heat of the day when they are apt for consolidation, without prejudice to the fruit. But it is not regularly till the fourth year that you can expect any store of fruit; when governing your *Vineyard* as before you are directed, fail not of a due provision of props sufficient for your whole plantation.

CHAP.

## 30 *The English Vineyard*

### CHAP. VI.

*How to order, and cultivate the Vineyard after the first four years 'till it needs renewing.*

**T**He following years after the first bearing, you will likely have three or four shoots to every Plant. In January therefore, or December, prune all away save the strongest, which you may leave for a standard about four or five foot high, cutting the rest very close to the body of the Mother-plant; (I mean such as are small and trifling shoots) reserving such as you find about the

the bigness of an handsome reed, to which you shall leave two or three eyes next the ground. Then apply a *prop* to every of your *Vines*, and tye to them the *Master* shoots which you were order'd to leave four foot high, with sometender *Oziers* about one foot from the *Earth*, bending the top of these *shoots* to the next *prop*, about two foot from the ground, that so your *ranks* may stand in forme of *Arches*, whilest the eyes that you spared now in *dressing*, shall the *May* following, be bound to the *props* for the next years

D      bearing

32 *The English Vineyard*  
bearing, to the great increase  
of your fruit : Then in *May*,  
or the beginning of *June* (when  
the little *raisins* are of the big-  
ness before mentioned ) stop  
their second joynt above the  
fruit as you were there taught,  
but be careful to leave the  
strongest shoot to be the stan-  
dard plant of the year ensuing.

In *August*, when the fruit  
begins to turn and ripen, break  
off such shoots as you shall find  
too thick upon those you  
prun'd in *May* ; but this  
worke you must do with dis-  
cretion, and only so as to let  
in the *Sun* for the ripning of  
the

## Vindicated. 33

the over shadowed Clusters,  
which you ought to leave  
skreen'd with some of the fo-  
liage, as well to preserve your  
fruit from the scorching of  
the Sun, by day, as the dews  
which fall in the night, to  
both whose invasions it is  
obnoxious.

And now observe, that the  
standards you last ty'd to the  
props at a foot-high, and whose  
tops were bent to be next,  
will the following year be  
grown Old wood: In the first  
Pruning season therefore, or  
January after, remember to cut  
them close to the ground,  
D 2 supplying



### 34 *The English Vineyard*

supplying the places with the strongest shoot of your young wood, which you left four foot high for the purpose, and which you must order as you have been taught the year before; pruning the rest at the very *Earth*, and leaving two eyes to each of the strongest shootes as is there reherfed: And now give your *Vineyard* an ordinary digging with the same care of the *master-roots*, and till the season of this worke, you may permit your *props* to stand.

We the more insift upon an *early pruning*, to hinder their *bleeding*; though some are of opinion

opinion, that this superfluity of *Vines*, preserving the young and forward *shoots* the backwarder in *April*, prevents the *blasts* of *May*; for this cause many will not cut their plants till *March*, but they spend too much of their Vigour in these late amputations, and are as much in danger of *blasting* for want of competent strength to support the tender *shoots*; whereas prun'd in *November* or the following moneth, they never *bleed*, but being cut before the rising of the *sap*, their wounds become hard and dry; and the *spirits* of the Plant

**6 The English Vineyard**

kept in, makes them break  
out the more vigorously at  
the eyes, furnishing the bran-  
ches with proud and turgid  
buds.

C H A P.

## C H A P. VII.

*How, and when to manure your  
Vineyard with Compost.*

**W**Hen through often  
stirring, you find  
your *Vineyard* poore,  
(which the weakness of your  
*crop* will soon discover) Prune  
your *Vines* as you are instruct-  
ed; and spread good rotten  
*dung* mixt with *lime*, over the  
whole ground; let this lye a  
full winter, that the vertue of  
it may be wash'd into the *Earth*,  
and this way of *Stercoration* is  
infinitely to be prefer'd before  
the digging, and mingling it  
D 4 with

### 38 *The English Vineyard*

with your *mould* : But if you will have it in perfection, lay your materials in a large heape, in some convenient place near your *Vineyard* : A layer of fresh and *natural-Earth* taken from the *Surface*, and another of *dung* a pretty deale thicker ; then a layer of *Earth* again, and so successively, mingling a load of *lime* to every ten loads of *dung*, will make an admirable *Compost* for the purpose; but your *Magazine* will require the maturity of *two* or *three* years, and to be cover'd with the former qualified *Earth*, and somewhat shaded,

shaded, so as neither the *Sun* too much draw from it, nor the violent *raines* too much dilute it.

With this *Composition*, after you have (as we advis'd) pruned your *Vines* (for which the moneths of *January* and *February* may be allowed) dung your whole *Vineyard*; About *thirty* Loads I suppose may well dress an *Aker*; but lay, and spread it equally, and then you may turne it in, with a slight digging, but not too deep; and shall in a short time find it as light and tractable as the freshest *Earth*, which

40 *The English Vineyard*  
which property we ascribe to  
the *Lime*. When this is done,  
re-establish your *props*, and  
with your *foot* tread the *Earth*  
close to the *roots*, to defend  
their *fibers* from the dry winds  
of *March*, which will even pe-  
netrate the looser mould; but  
this worke should be per-  
form'd in a *dry*, not in a *wet*  
season; lest the *Earth* bind  
too fast, and for other obvious  
reasons.

And thus I have shew'd  
how *Vineyards* in *England* may  
be *Planted*, govern'd, and *perpe-*  
*tuated* with undoubted suc-  
cess, omitting the less material  
*curiosities*

*curiosities* to the larger *Volumes*,  
and those who have more lea-  
sure (I fear) than skill.

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To

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TO.  
THE READER.

**L** *Et the Reader be pleased to take notice, that I have not only endeavour'd to furnish all lovers of these Plantations with the best Instructions I am able concerning the choice and propagation of Vines; but my self also with so plentifull a Stock of Sets and Plants of all those Sorts which I chiefly recommend, that those who have*

To the Reader.

*have a desire to Store their  
Grounds, may receive  
them of me at very rea-  
sonable Rates.*

F I N I S.